

House File 97 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 97

BY MURPHY

A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing eligibility for mental health services for
2 certain children through the regional mental health and
3 disability service system.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 331.396, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code
2 2013, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. The person is at least eighteen years of age and is a
4 resident of this state. However, a person who is seventeen
5 years of age, is a resident of this state, and is receiving
6 publicly funded children's services may be considered eligible
7 for services through the regional service system during the
8 three-month period preceding the person's eighteenth birthday
9 in order to provide a smooth transition from children's to
10 adult services. In addition, a person who is a child less
11 than eighteen years of age and is a resident of this state
12 is eligible for services through the regional service system
13 provided all of the following requirements are met:

14 (1) The child meets all of the requirements to be eligible
15 for the regional service system other than the minimum age.

16 (2) The child has been diagnosed by a qualified professional
17 as having a disorder covered by the regional service system
18 and is in need of a treatment or other service covered by the
19 regional service system.

20 (3) The diagnosis required in subparagraph (2) is made by
21 a qualified professional affiliated with the school district
22 or affiliated with the authorities in charge of the nonpublic
23 school attended by the child.

24 Sec. 2. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection
25 3, shall not apply to this Act.

26 EXPLANATION

27 This bill provides eligibility for mental health services
28 through the regional mental health and disability service
29 system for certain children. The regions, consisting of
30 counties, are being formed and phased in during FY 2013-2014.

31 Under current law, eligibility for mental health and
32 intellectual disability services under the regional service
33 system is limited to persons who are at least age 18 and
34 persons who are age 17, are within three months of becoming age
35 18, and are transitioning from the children's system.

1 The bill provides eligibility for mental health services
2 from the regional system for residents of this state who are
3 children less than age 18, who meet all of the requirements
4 to be eligible for the regional services system other than
5 the minimum age, who have been diagnosed by a qualified
6 professional as having a disorder covered by the regional
7 service system and is in need of a treatment or other service
8 covered by the regional service system, and the diagnosis is
9 made by a qualified professional affiliated with the school
10 district or with the authorities in charge of the nonpublic
11 school attended by the child.

12 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
13 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,
14 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from
15 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of
16 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,
17 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state
18 mandate included in the bill.